8

10

12

14

16



- A thermal blanket for covering and bathing a person
   in a thermally-controlled inflating medium, comprising:
- a flexible base sheet having a head end, a foot end, two edges, and a plurality of apertures;

an overlaying flexible material sheet attached to a first surface of said base sheet by a plurality of discontinuous seams which form said overlaying material sheet into a plurality of communicating, inflatable chambers, said apertures opening through said base sheet into said chambers; and

a continuous seam between said overlaying material sheet and said base sheet at said head end which forms a non-inflatable viewing area in said blanket at said head end, said non-inflatable viewing area being substantially coplanar with or parallel to, said base sheet.

- The thermal blanket of claim 1 wherein said base
   sheet includes an undersheet of flexible fibrous material and a sheet of plastic material coextensive with and
   attached to said undersheet.
- 3. The thermal blanket of claim 1 wherein said base sheet includes a multi-layered structure in which the bottommost layer is a paper sheet bonded to an upper sheet of plastic material.

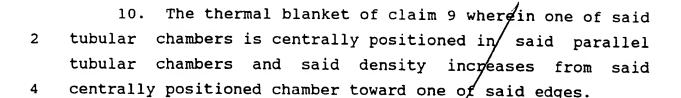
- 4. The thermal blanket of claim 2 wherein said
  2 discontinuous seams are substantially elongate, formed seals
  between said overlaying material sheet and sheet of plastic
  4 material.
- 5. The thermal blanket of claim 2 wherein one of said
  2 discontinuous seams includes a sequence of collinear, formed
  seals extending from said foot end to said head end.
- 6. The thermal blanket of claim 5 wherein said plurality of discontinuous seams form said overlaying material sheet into a plurality of mutually parallel, communicating tubular chambers.
- 7. The thermal blanket of claim 1 including an exhaust 2 port opening through said material sheet adjacent one of said edges for venting an inflating medium from said 4 chambers and away from said base sheet.
- 8. The thermal blanket of claim 1 including a patterned array of apertures opening through said underside into said chambers, said patterned array comprising a density pattern in which the density of said apertures increases toward one of said edges.
- 9. The thermal blanket of claim 6 including a patterned array of apertures, said apertures opening through said base sheet into said chambers, said patterned array comprising a density pattern in which the density of said apertures increases toward on of said edges.

6

8

10

12



- 11. The thermal blanket of claim 10 wherein no apertures open through said base sheet into said centrally positioned tubular chamber.
- 12. The thermal blanket of claim 11 wherein no a pertures open through said base sheet into a tubular chamber adjacent one of said edges.

## 13. A thermal blanket comprising:

- a self-erecting inflatable covering with a head end, a foot end, two edges, and an undersurface;
  - an inflating inlet adjacent said foot end for admitting a thermally-controlled inflating medium;
  - an array of apertures in said undersurface for exhausting a thermally controlled inflating medium from said covering;
  - an exhaust port opening in said inflatable covering for venting an inflating medium from adjacent an edge of said inflatable covering and away from said undersurface; and
- a flat uninflatable section at said head end for upper body viewing.

6

8

10

12





- 14. The thermal blanket of claim /13, wherein said pattern of said array of apertures increases the density of said apertures from a central location on said undersurface in a direction toward a first one of said edges.
- 15. The thermal blanket of claim 14 wherein the
  2 pattern of said array of apertures increases the density of
  said apertures from said central location in a direction
  4 toward the second of said edges.
- 16. A thermal blanket for covering and bathing a person in a thermally-controlled medium, comprising:
  - a flexible base sheet having a head end, a foot end, two edges, and a plurality of apertures;
    - an overlaying plastic sheet attached to a first surface of said base sheet by a plurality of discontinuous seams which form said plastic sheet into a plurality of communicating inflatable chambers, said apertures opening through said base sheet into said chambers;
  - a continuous seam between said plastic sheet and said base sheet at said head end which forms a non-inflatable viewing recess; and
- an exhaust vent through said overlaying plastic sheet and adjacent a first, opening from a first inflatable chamber adjacent said first edge, for venting an inflating medium away from said base sheet, and away from a second inflatable chamber.

6

8

10

12





	17.	The	thermal	. }	blan}	cet/oi	f cla	air	16	inclu	ıding	ar
2	absorbent	bib	attached	to	the	head	end	of	said	base	sheet	

- 18. A thermal blanket for covering and bathing a person in a thermally-controlled medium, comprising:
  - a flexible base sheet having a head end, a foot end, two edges, and a plurality of apertures;
    - an overlaying plastic sheet attached to a first surface of said base sheet by a plurality of discontinuous seams which form said plastic sheet into a plurality of communicating inflatable chambers, said apertures opening through said base sheet into said chambers;
    - a continuous seam between said plastic sheet and said base sheet at said head end which forms a non-inflatable viewing recess; and
- an absorbent bib attached to the head end of said base sheet.



	13. A CHELMAL DILIMEC, Complianing.
2	a self-erecting inflatable covering with a head
	end, a foot end, two edges, and an undersurface;
4	an inflating inlet for admitting a thermally-
	controlled inflating medium;
6	an array of apertures in said undersurface for
	exhausting a thermally-controlled inflating medium from
8	said covering;
	an uninflatable section at said head end for upper
10	body viewing; and
	an/absorbent bib attached to the head end of said
12	inflatable covering.

